

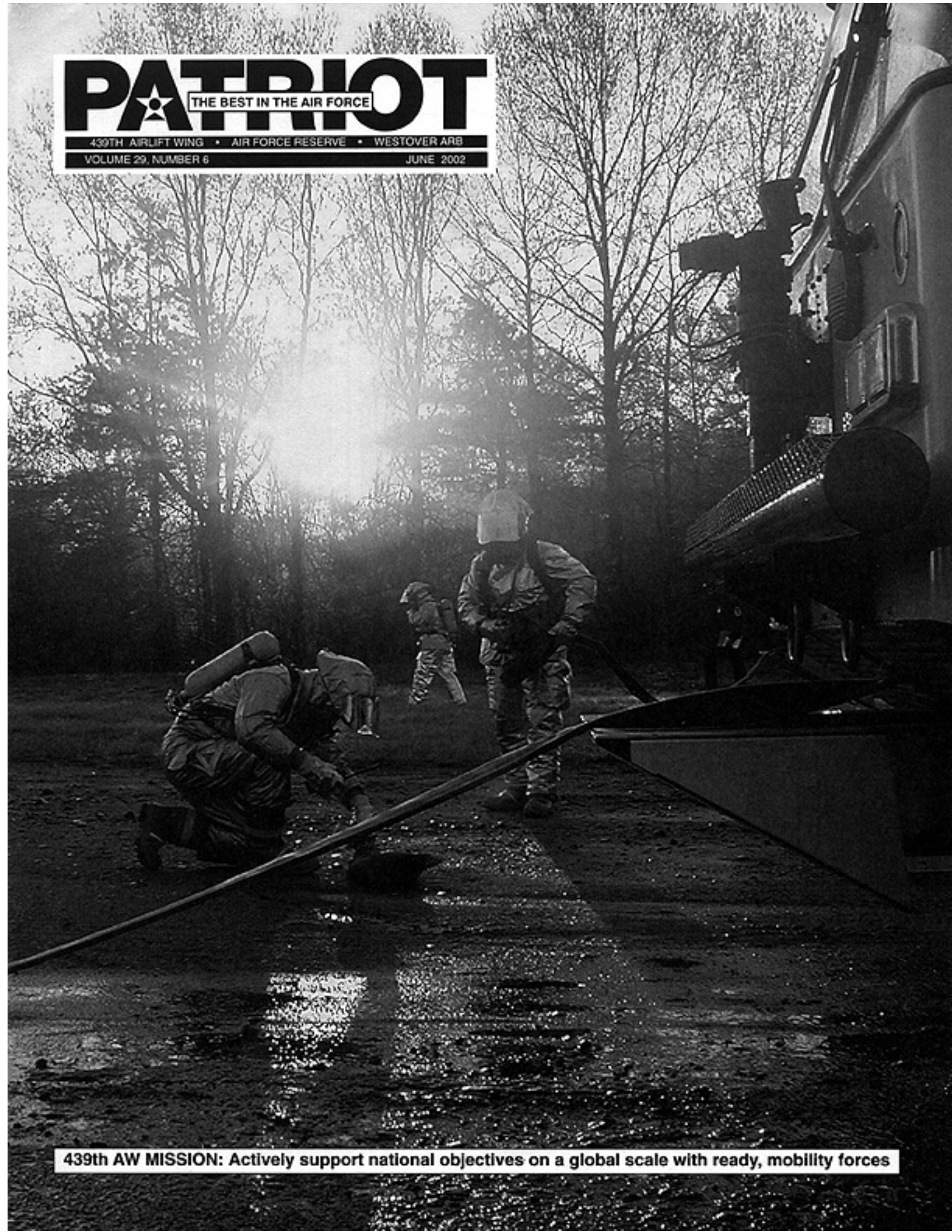
PATRIOT

THE BEST IN THE AIR FORCE

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER AFB

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 6

JUNE 2002



439th AW MISSION: Actively support national objectives on a global scale with ready, mobility forces

GREAT WORK!

You are to be commended for your efforts during the inspections in May. Special thanks goes out to the following: to Col. Tom Mauzaka and our Performance Planning staff who led our Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) preparation efforts, Lt. Col. Ken Riley and Maj. Catherine Manning who led the Aircrew Standard Evaluation Visit (ASEV) preparation efforts, and Lt. Col. Bob Sousa and MSgt. Lisa Laudenslager who led the 439th AMDS Health Services Inspection (HSI) preparation efforts. Everyone across the wing worked very hard.

I am very pleased to get the Inspector General's feedback that we are on track. Comments such as "This unit is clearly mission ready!" (AMDS HSI report) and "Flying performance and individual knowledge is outstanding with a near perfect record in flight evaluations and aircrew testing." (ASEV report) say it all. You show this daily in your mission accomplishment and it was great to have this validated.

This issue of the Patriot includes the list of superior performers and superior performance teams that the IG identified during the UCI and ASEV. They tell me it is the most they have given out.

Am I surprised – heck no!

We have expended a lot of energy getting our programs up to speed. Don't throw that away. Apply doses of low-level energy to keep them in tune.

The teams did leave us with some areas for improvement and we need to get on those and fix them. Remember – it's not the grade that counts, it's what we do with the feedback we get, that defines our unit. In the words of Col Bob Bailey, AFRC/IG, we have proven ourselves to be the "TEAM OF CHOICE"

Whether it's outstanding inspection results like these or the e-mails I get from our deployed members about how they are doing, you make me proud.

Thanks for all you do!

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th Airlift Wing Commander

P.S. As of this writing, the 439 ASTS had not begun their HSI – best of luck!



Col. Martin M. Mazick

Briefs

Third quarter award recipients announced

Westover's Quarterly Awards Board has selected the following third-quarter award winners for fiscal 2002.

Airman:

SrA. Kara B. Davis, 439 AGS

NCO:

TSgt. Michael J. Downs, 42 APS

Sr. NCO:

MSgt. Randy J. Bates, 439 SFS

Officer:

Capt. David P. Walsh, 439 AGS

Family Support Center taking gifts for troops

The Family Support Center in Bldg. 1100 is accepting donations from off-base groups for airlift to service members overseas.

Among those items which cannot be donated are perishables (except pre-packaged food), chemicals, batteries, aerosol, pornographic material, weapons, hazardous materials or flammables, pets and live plants. Donations will be inspected by the wing's bioenvironmental specialists before it is airlifted.

For more information about donations to overseas service members, call the Family Support Center at Ext. 3024 or toll-free at 866-690-2161.

June UTA schedule
A UTA June 1-2
B UTA June 22-23

Cover Photo

FIRST RESPONDERS - Base firefighters arrive on the scene of a mock aircraft accident during a major accident response exercise held on May 1 as part of the Unit Compliance Inspection at Westover.

- photo by SSgt. Andrew Biscoe

PATRIOT

"This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the **PATRIOT** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force."

"The content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 439th Airlift Wing, Westover Air Reserve Base. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated."

439th AW Commander

Col. Martin M. Mazick

Chief of Public Affairs/Co-editor

Gordon A. Newell

PA Air Reserve Technician/Co-editor

SSgt. Andrew Biscoe

Wing Public Affairs Officers

Lt. Col. Sally Nutt Morger

Capt. Wilson Camelo

NCOIC

SMSgt. Sandi Michon

Deputy NCOIC

MSgt. Tom Allocco

Illustrator

MSgt. W.C. Pope

Staff

TSgt. Andrew Reitano

SrA. Thomas Ouellette

Administration

SrA. Amber Ryals

Amn. Mary Gallagher

UCI team gives high marks for 439th AW inspection

Westover took its "finals" in May with a Unit Compliance Inspection for the Wing, a Health Services Inspection for the 439th AMDS, and an Aircrew Standardization/Evaluation visit for the flying squadron.

The 439th Airlift Wing turned in a star performance during its Unit Compliance Inspection in May. Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General officials said during the outbrief on May 5.

The IG team cited 29 superior performers and seven superior teams at Westover, the most the team has seen to date.

Col. Bob Bailey led the inspection team and said the 439th Airlift Wing has its eye squarely on the ball. "This is one of the most highly-tasked wings with more than 1,200 people mobilized," he said, "if you look at the big picture and how this wing has operated, it is clear that this wing is a strategic asset that is directly impacting national security."

Maj. Gen. James D. Bankers, 22nd Air Force commander and former 439th Airlift Wing commander, attended the outbrief. "You do it every day and you do it well," he said. "Your performance is something to be really proud of."

Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, echoed the general's remarks. "When this whole process started, and especially after 9-11, we were asking ourselves, 'How can we be expected to do this in light of everything else?' In true fashion this wing drew a line in the sand and went out and did it. I couldn't be more proud," he said.

Westover's clinic (439th AMDS) aced their Health Services Inspection in May. According to Lt. Col. Bob Sousa, AMDS administrator, the HSI is the most comprehensive medical inspection — inspecting 73 elements. "It is intensive, down to the smallest detail," said Sousa, who added that Westover's clinic is the first AMDS to have a functional Airbase Clinic (ABC) with 19 members activated.

Sousa had high praise for the inspection team. "They were very professional and provided helpful guidance," he said.



photo by SSgt. Andrew Biscoe

BY-THE-BOOK — Marian Mathieu, base bioenvironmental engineer, runs through her checklist during the major accident response exercise on May 1.

He also praised the 80 members of the clinic. "They are the most talented people I have ever worked with. Despite the long hours and challenges, it has been a pleasure to work with them," he said.

"Air Force-wide, Westover will be a benchmark for other units to come to for help," said Sousa.

439th Airlift Wing Superior Performers

OVERALL SUPERIOR PERFORMERS

Capt. Colleen E. Kelley, 439 AMDS
Capt. David P. Walsh, 439 AGS
1st Lt. Richard C. Ropac, 439 CES
SMSgt. Alan P. Dedinas, 439 AGS
MSgt. Robert W. Banns, Jr., 439 AGS
MSgt. David M. Cabana, 439 AGS
MSgt. Harry D. Delude, 439 MXS
MSgt. Jeffrey D. Knight, 439 OSF
MSgt. Lisa R. Laudenslager, 439 AMDS
MSgt. Rosemaire G. Matteson, 439 LG
MSgt. Ronald E. May, 439 LG
MSgt. David A. Valliere, 439 LG
TSgt. Thomas E. Cown, 439 CES
TSgt. Theresa B. Dionne, 337 AS
TSgt. Charles A. Fareira, Jr., 439 MSS
TSgt. Craig M. Kline, 439 MXS
TSgt. Charmine M. Mallett, 439

LSS
TSgt. Derek A. Ouimette, 58 APS
TSgt. James M. Payne, 42 APS
TSgt. Nicole D. Remy, 439 LSS
TSgt. Barbara A. Roszak, 439 MXS
SSgt. Cornelia Babcock, 439 ASTS
SrA. Michael J. Rochon, 439 LSS
Roberta E. Knox, 439 CES
Kathleen M. Wood, 439 AW
James R. Brady 439 AES
Deb Heady 439 SPTG
Ruth A. Parker 439 OSS

439th AW VOTING PROGRAM INITIAL COORDINATION TEAM
Maj. Walter Lassiter, Jr.
MSgt. Shane Robitaille
Kathleen Kies

439th AW FORCE PROTECTION ANTI-TERRORISM TEAM
MSgt. Michael Deguille
MSgt. Patrick Whelan
TSgt. Scott Daigneault

AGS CONSOLIDATED TOOL KIT SAFETY TEAM
MSgt. Joseph Janusz
TSgt. Todd Roberts
TSgt. Mark Wasuk
SrA. James Lanning, Jr.

LG MOBILITY TEAM
MSgt. William Mick
MSgt. Kym Schulz
TSgt. Al Dudley
TSgt. David Guzik
TSgt. Steve Nogas
TSgt. Todd Zuzula
SSgt. Richard Garcia

42nd APS MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT TEAM
SMSgt. Gary Watson
MSgt. Albert Hayford, Jr.
TSgt. Terry Lovett

AW PLANS TEAM
Lt. Col. Forrest Price, Jr.
Maj. Robert Thompson
Capt. Patrick Ryan
SMSgt. Owen Connolly

MSgt. Ronald Chevalier
TSgt. Robert Niquette
TSgt. Joanna Sheeran
Pauline Wilczynski

439th SUPPORT GROUP BIO-ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY TEAM
Marian Mathieu
William Archambeau
Karl Lindberg
Robert Pomeroy

ASEV (Special Recognition)
Lt. Col. Kenneth Riley
Maj. Douglas Gernhard
Maj. Catherine Manning
Capt. Jay K. Ober
Capt. Elizabeth Ryder
CMSgt. James R. Brady
SMSgt. Thomas V. Dzwonkus
SMSgt. Michael J. Marrone
MSgt. Anthony Colucci
MSgt. Kim L. Grybko
MSgt. David A. Perrault
TSgt. Theresa B. Dionne
Ruth Parker

Chaplains train for changing era on battlefield

by MSgt. Thomas Allocco

The new face of war means that in the field anyone can be friend or foe, and uncertainty is standard operating procedure. One misstep or misunderstanding can instantly turn a confrontation into a firefight. In such a potentially explosive situation, the presence of a chaplain able to offer counsel can be a lifesaver.

To be better prepared for their expanding roles in wartime, Wing Chaplain (Capt.) William Wiecher and Chaplain's Assistant MSgt. Robert Kazalski underwent two weeks of Phoenix Readiness combat training at the Air Mobility Warfare Center at Fort Dix, N.J., in April.

While honing their core responsibilities of ministering to the troops' spiritual needs in the field, they also trained in a newer role as negotiator and advisor to the commander to help defuse confrontational situations.

The training at Fort Dix included simulated scenarios that chaplains could encounter in the field. In one such situation, midway through Phoenix Readiness, Wiecher and Kazalski were aboard a convoy of Humvees blocked by simulated protestors from an Eastern European country. While the American troops in the convoy dispersed in a perimeter defense, Wiecher was called to the commander's side to negotiate with the protestors.

"A chaplain can lower the tension level ... de-escalate a situation to help accomplish the mission," Wiecher said. A second convoy confronted by the protestors had much more trouble getting

through without the help of a chaplain on the scene.

"It helps to know the religious background in a situation, know who you're interacting with. The chaplain can offer the commander advice on religious accommodations," Wiecher said.

In another exercise scenario, the West-over Protestant chaplain negotiated with a simulated fundamentalist suicide bomber and successfully appealed to him within the context of his belief system.

In other situations on the front lines of modern war, the chaplain's role of advisor to the commander can include assessing the ethics and morality of actions.

During Phoenix Readiness, Kazalski and other chaplain's aides served as bodyguards, armed with M-16s to protect the chaplains. Everyone wore web and full exercise gear as well. In addition, Wiecher carried a Chaplain's Combat Assault Kit, a canvas bag including a woodland camouflage stole, Chalice and hosts for Protestant and Catholic services.

Wiecher's efforts in the exercise were recognized with the Phoenix Readiness Warrior Spirit Award, which acknowledged exceptional leadership, attitude and overall performance.

The training brought together 365 Reserve and active duty members of two dozen career fields from every service branch, plus non-governmental humanitarian aid organizations and a British explosive ordinance disposal team. Other West-over participants included 439th Security Flight Squadron members TSgt. Kevin Harford, SSgt. Gary Merritt and SSgt. Jerry Peeples.

The exercise simulated a humanitarian mission to a bare base in an Eastern European country following a hurricane. Participants experienced many of the discomforts of a real-world mission, including life in hardback tents during an unseasonably



photo by TSgt. Andrew Reitano

PHOENIX WARRIORS - Chaplain (Capt.) William Wiecher and MSgt. Robert Kazalski, chaplain's assistant, both from West-over, inspect some of their training equipment.

hot spell that kept them sweating during workdays which sometimes lasted until midnight. Showers were limited to three minutes and most meals were MREs.

"It was great to have the first salad in two weeks, ice in a drink instead of warm water and a long shower," Kazalski said after Phoenix Readiness.

Wiecher conducted services every morning in a tent. He and Kazalski also boosted morale with urns of coffee brewing in the chapel tent at 5:30 a.m. "We were the only place in the field with coffee in the morning," Kazalski said.

They also took water, Gatorade and snacks to troops in defensive fighting positions in the field.

"The most important thing was to learn field craft, to take care of yourself in a hostile environment and minister in those conditions," Wiecher said. "It was a hard pace, but I think it was the finest training of its kind in the world."

Defense Department approves service medal for war on terror

WASHINGTON - Air Force reservists who serve in good standing in the Selected Reserve on or after Sept. 11 are now eligible to wear the National Defense Service Medal.

Department of Defense officials here announced the reinstatement of the NDSM May 1. Two days later the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph AFB, Texas, released guidance on who in the Air Force is authorized to wear the medal.

The Selected Reserve consists of Category A reservists in Air Force Reserve Command units and Category B reservists in the Individual Mobilization Augmentee program.

In addition to active-duty personnel and reservists in the Selected Reserve, members of other than the Selected Reserve serving on active duty may also be eligible for the medal. They do not qualify if they are on active duty for the sole purpose of undergoing a physical examina-

tion; are members of the Individual Ready Reserve, Standby Reserve or Retired Reserve whose active-duty service is for training only; or those on active duty to serve on boards, courts or commissions.

Eligible members wear the basic ribbon for the initial award of the medal. Additional awards of the medal are denoted by bronze service stars.

The National Defense Service Medal is available through the Defense Supply System and in Army-Air Force Exchange Service military clothing and sales stores.

No closing date has been established for the current award period. Reservists who have questions about the medal should contact their military personnel flight.

(AFRC News Service from a DOD news release)



LET THE RACE BEGIN — The 2002 Fitness Challenge runners leave the start line with running the first of three events.

Logistics tops 2002 Fitness Challenge during May UTA

A 439th Logistics team outpaced eight other teams in Westover's Second Annual Fitness Challenge held May 4. The challenge is a coed team competition with a heavy emphasis on fun and camaraderie. The course includes a 2.7-mile run, canoeing about one and a half miles around Wade Lake's perimeter, biking approximately three miles, and completion of an obstacle located out in Dogpatch.

Paul Cincotta, David Carbin, and Nicole Remy took top honors with a time of 1.03 hours.

- photos by SrA. Thomas Ouellette



WATCH YOUR STEP — Andrew Martindell walks the balance beam during the Fitness Challenge held May 4.



BOATS AND/OR BIKES — Sandy Whittier, front, with Tom Mauzaka, and Mary Gallagher, paddle around Wade Lake's perimeter. At right, Mike Vinskey heads out on the bicycle part of the challenge.



Anti-terrorism strategy calls on everyone's vigilance

"Eagle Eyes" has the characteristics of a typical neighborhood-watch program, and Air Force officials consider it a key piece in the service's anti-terrorism strategy.

According to Special Agent Gardner Whitney, Detachment 307, Air Force Office of Special Investigations at Westover, the program takes its cue from British and Israeli authorities, who have significant experience dealing with urban terrorism.

"They make it their business to pay a lot of attention to small things that, in combination, can indicate they're being targeted," Whitney said. "Eagle Eyes is our model for doing just that. The simple act of recognizing suspicious behavior and reporting it to base authorities could thwart terrorism and save lives."

Security forces will respond as appropriate to an immediate situation and immediately pass the report to the OSI. From there, OSI will begin appropriate follow-up action, which may include an agent responding to the person who called in the report to gain additional information on what was seen or heard. At the same time, the information will be quickly sent to OSI's Central Analytical Center at Andrews AFB, Md., to compare with other Air Force reports, as well as similar information from the Army, Navy and other federal agencies.

But it all begins at the local level, Whitney said, where terrorists conduct operational planning activities.

Force Protection Tip of the Month

Seven categories of suspicious activities that warrant reporting:

- **Surveillance.** Someone may be recording or monitoring activities.
- **Elicitation.** People or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities, or people. (example mail, fax, telephone, or in person).
- **Tests of security.** Any attempts to test security measure's or postures.
- **Acquiring supplies.** Purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition or equipment.
- **Suspicious persons out of place.** These are people who don't seem to belong.
- **Dry run.** Putting people into position and moving them around according to their plan without actually committing the terrorist act.
- **Deploying assets.** People and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is a person's last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs.

The Force Protection Office may be reached at Ext. 3872 or 3807.

Other important numbers include the Springfield FBI office (736-0301) and the Westover OSI office at Ext. 3837.

"Every terrorist operation is preceded by precursor events that people need to recognize and report," he said. "Terrorist acts don't just happen - they are carefully planned and rehearsed many, many times in advance."

The key is public awareness of what to look for and take note of, both on and off base, Whitney explained. "This is something the whole community needs to be involved in. Anyone - from active-duty military members, to family members, to government civilians, contractors, and even off-base business proprietors - could see something out of the ordinary, report it, and make the difference between a terrorist act occurring or not occurring."

People shouldn't be gun-shy about reporting incidents that could turn out to be innocent behavior.

The Eagle Eyes program has the full support of Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander, and Maj. Mary Ann Lutz, 439th Security Forces Squadron commander.

"My responsibility is to protect the assets assigned to Westover and provide all of you a safe and secure work environment," Mazick said. "The professionals of the 439 SFS go a long way to making this possible. However, we need your help. Keep your antennae up and report strange occurrences."

PROFILES IN COURAGE

Members of the 439th Security Forces Squadron stand formation in April. The way America defines security has forever changed since 9/11, and more than 100 SFS reservists have been activated since October 2001. They provide around-the-clock security at Westover and locations around the world.

photo by Lt. Col. Sally Nutt Morger





"Yard of the Month"



Far, far and away

GLOBAL ADDRESS — With more than 1,200 Westover reservists activated, many cannot live at home — but many more are twice removed as hundreds serve global deployments. The top left photo shows a humorous effort to bring a touch of home to faraway, barren places. In top photo, Capt. Shawn* with the 439th ASTS, works a C-17 medical mission. At left, a security force member from Westover completes target practice at an overseas location. In bottom left photo, TSgt. Keith* works on a C-5 at yet another foreign base. In lower photo, Maj. Brent*, 439th SFS, poses with a foreign military member. (*Security guidelines prohibit publishing the last names of deployed members)

Photos courtesy of deployed units





photo by SrA. Amber Ryals



photo by TSgt. Andrew Reitano



photo by TSgt. Andrew Reitano



photo by SSgt. Andrew Biscoe

Air Force Reserve band plays to wide audience

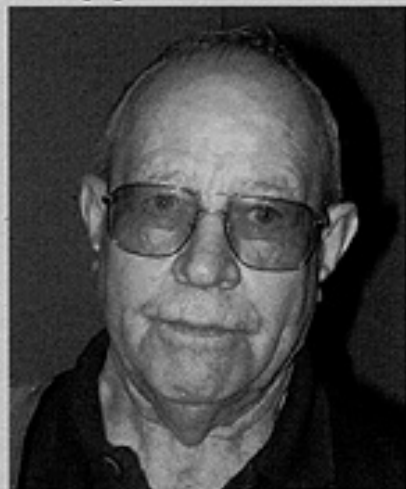
The Band of the Air Force Reserve visited Westover and performed at locations in Western Mass. and Boston April 11-14.

The 37-member ensemble from Robins AFB, Ga., includes the Reserve Generation rock band, Woodwind Quintet, Brass Quintet, Pipe Band, and Dixie Express. According to Col. Tom Mauzaka, special assistant to the 439th AW commander, the purpose of the band visit is to reach out to potential recruits and increase awareness of the Air Force Reserve within local communities.

The band performed in an area school (top photo) and at the City Hall Plaza in Boston (photo above). At left are members of the Pipe Band.

All concerts were free and open to the public. Each year the band travels more than 100,000 miles, performing world-wide in more than 500 concerts. All band members are full-time professional Air Force musicians working in support of recruiting and community outreach programs.

Volunteer appreciation



THANKS FOR HELPING — Retired CMSgt. Edward Morris, was one of 129 base volunteers honored at the Westover Club on April 22. Morris received a Certificate of Volunteer Excellence from Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th Airlift Wing commander, for his nine years of volunteer service at Westover.

AF Assistance Fund runs until June 30

The 2002 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign runs through June 30. SMSgt. Cliff Wittman, 439th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant, is this year's AFAF project officer.

Contributions provide support to four AFAF affiliates: the Air Force Village Indigent Widows Fund, Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Men's Widows and Dependent Home Foundation Indigent Widows Fund, and the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

Checks may be made payable to the Air Force Assistance Fund. Contributors are asked to mark the memo section of their checks "439 AW."

Wittman may be reached at Ext. 3169. Contributions can be mailed to:

Air Force Assistance Fund, HQ AFPC/DPSFM, 550 C St. West Ste. 37
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150-4739



**patriot
puns**

by
MSgt. W. C.
Pope

July 18 – Employer Appreciation Day

Reservist's name, rank and unit: _____

Reservist's home address: _____

Reservist's daytime telephone number: _____

Employer's name and title: _____

Employer's company name: _____

Breakfast for employer: YES _____ NO _____

Breakfast for reservist: YES _____ NO _____

I understand that I may nominate one person annually, and only an individual who is my supervisor, foreman, manager, etc.

Signature _____

(Falsification of information on this form can be punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.)

Return this form to:

439th Airlift Wing/ Public Affairs, 100 Lloyd St., East Wing, Suite 103
Westover ARB, Mass. 01022-1825

fax: (413) 557-2011, for information, call: (413) 557-3500

Air Force Chief of Staff reviews Stop Loss; charts 'Road Ahead'

by Gen. John P. Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

It's been almost six months since my last Sight Picture addressing our nation's war on terrorism and the vital contributions of our airmen to its success. Secretary Roche and I are proud of your efforts—the U.S. Air Force has done an extraordinary job meeting the intensive joint operational requirements of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Our entire Total Force Team has demonstrated the ability to fight the war on terrorism for the long haul.

However, we know that keeping up this pace without a clear road map of what lies ahead has a direct impact on your quality of life. We also understand there are many questions concerning Stop Loss, mobilization and demobilization, and future operations that need answering, and we are aggressively working to deliver them to you as soon as possible. Three critical assumptions will drive our answers and be factored into our plans at every echelon of command:

1.) Our heightened force protection conditions will become our new "normal."

2.) Securing our nation's skies is also a new constant and includes fighter, tanker, AWACS, and transport support.

3.) Our heightened tempo of operations is likely to continue at its current pace for the foreseeable future.

We know many of you have questions regarding Stop Loss. We have completed three reviews and to date, 61 officer (38 percent) and 99 enlisted (33 percent) AFSCs have been released. We will continue to review the remaining AFSCs for further releases. Also, our mobilized Guardsmen and Reservists want to know when to expect demobilization. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations is coordinating an effort to evaluate our mission needs and determine which AFSCs can be demobilized as soon as possible. At the same time, we are evaluating where, when, and how to shift from a crisis response mode — with heavy reliance on mobilized Guard and Reserve — to our "new steady state," which would utilize volunteer Guardsmen and Reservists to help meet our mission tasks. We need these results to determine our long-term requirements for our mobilized members and how long to continue Stop Loss for those in our

most stressed skills. We expect to provide this information to you before the end of May.

We also face the challenge of determining our requirements after mobilization authority expires. Most of the initiatives we're considering are being worked within the context of our fiscal 2004 program and budget development. We are looking at funding efficiencies and maximizing utilization of technology, both of which will allow us to shift manpower into our critically short AFSCs. We may have to move some work from military to civilian (both civil servant and contractor) members of our team, or augment our military with civilian help. Secretary Roche and I will update you on our plans when we forward them to the Secretary of Defense this August.

We can't be certain of what lies ahead in the global war on terrorism, but we can and must carefully manage our force requirements to assure we will achieve victory in whatever turn this war takes. We'll continue to work these issues hard and update you accordingly. Again, we are immensely proud of our Total Air Force Team and commend you for your service and dedication to our country.

Reserve to mirror AF organizational changes to flying wings

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — When Air Force Reserve Command flying wings begin reorganizing in October to comply with an Air Force directive, they will follow a plan developed by the Headquarters AFRC directorate of plans and programs.

A cross-functional team will set up strategies, policies and directives for implementing the restructuring, which includes creating a new maintenance group, restructuring support groups and reducing operations group tasks.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper directed April 22 that all active-duty, Reserve and Air National Guard wings adopt the new standard wing structure to enhance the service's warfighting capabilities.

"After careful deliberations with major command commanders, we reached a decision on a new wing organizational structure that will standardize operations across the Air Force and enhance our expeditionary capabilities," Jumper said.

The five major changes involved in the standard wing concept include:

- Aircraft and space maintenance specialists currently assigned to operations and logistics groups will be reassigned to a newly created maintenance group;
- Supply and transportation squadrons will be combined to form logistics readiness squadrons;
- Contracting squadrons, aerial ports and LRSs will transfer into existing support groups, which will be renamed "mission support group;"
- Logistics plans functions will transfer to the newly created LRSs; and
- The logistics readiness officer career field initiative, which combines supply, transportation and logistics plans career fields, will begin

new accessions in April.

AFRC has a year from October 2002 to implement the standard Air Force wing structure.

"We'll take our time to ensure those changes cause the minimum amount of turmoil," said Maj. Gen. John J. Barbic Jr., AFRC vice commander. "There should be little need for variation or exception. Change is always difficult and disruptive, but our challenge at all levels of Air Force Reserve Command is to embrace the Air Force changes and do everything to make this a positive, fluid change."

Jumper emphasized the importance of these changes, saying operation and maintenance of air and space weapons systems are core competencies of the Air Force.

"Operations group activities focus on planning and executing air and space power," he said. "Commanders of operations groups are charged with leading their units in combat. They will continue to be considered leaders and role models in the tactical employment of their weapons systems...and will be increasingly involved in planning and training for the operational level of war."

The chief of staff said aging aircraft and space fleets, coupled with years of resource shortfalls, will require maintainers to skillfully balance sortie production with the condition of those fleets. He said maintenance groups will need to respond to challenges with the same skill and proficiency as other groups in the wing structure.

Jumper said medical groups will continue to focus on maintaining a fit and ready force, with no change to the structure of those groups.

"I fully understand the magnitude of these changes," Jumper said. "The goal is to achieve a more capable Air Force with professionals who understand and are capable of meeting our ever-increasing, complex mission." (AFRC News Service from Air Force Print News)

Patriot People

Name: Daniel E. Szafranowicz
Rank: SrA.
Age: 21
Address: South Hadley, Mass.
Unit: 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Position: Aeromedical evacuation technician
Favorite food: Pizza
Years of service: 1 1/2
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: Camping
Ideal vacation: Hawaii
Best way to relax: Mountain biking
Preferred entertainment: TV
Favorite hero: George W. Bush
Favorite music: Alternative rock
Favorite movie: Full Metal Jacket
Favorite aircraft: C-5
Pet peeve: Pubs, pubs, pubs
What I would do if I won \$1 million: Buy my own island



Photo by SSgt. Andrew Blacoe

SrA. Daniel E. Szafranowicz

Patriot Praises

Promotions:

CMSgt. Lausier, Sharon L.
 SMSgt. Hedrick, Dale C.
 SMSgt. Wolff, Kenneth P.
 MSgt. Bennett, Roger C.
 MSgt. Clegg, Nancy C.
 MSgt. Karcz, Robert D.
 MSgt. Marowski, Kenneth J.
 MSgt. Morris, Michael
 MSgt. Quill, Gregory F.
 MSgt. Sawville, Thomas M.
 TSgt. Dansereau, David
 TSgt. Dietrich, Sabine
 TSgt. Dufresne, Gerald E.
 TSgt. Francis, Worrel A.

TSgt. Hatlat, David M.
 TSgt. Hughes, William H.
 TSgt. Joy, Nadine A.
 TSgt. Langevin, Steven G.
 TSgt. Maiello, Salvatore K.
 TSgt. Rivest, James W.
 TSgt. Rodriguez, David J.
 TSgt. Scaff, Dawn E.
 TSgt. Stone, Robert
 TSgt. Teel, Charlotte
 TSgt. Tubman, Daniel T.
 TSgt. Vanloon, Ellen M.
 SSgt. Beauchesne, Eric P.
 SSgt. Casey, Marykate
 SSgt. Couch, Larry J.
 SSgt. Crosman, Matthew J.
 SSgt. Foye, Daniel J., Jr.

SSgt. Hsley, Joseph S.
 SSgt. Lawler, Bruce J.
 SSgt. Lopez, Richard P.
 SSgt. Mageau, Keith M.
 SSgt. Payton, Toure J.
 SSgt. Wilchinski, Edward L., III
 SSgt. Zayas, Jose A., Jr.
 SrA. Borden, Jameson A.
 SrA. Diorio, Christopher R.
 SrA. Fill, David J., II
 SrA. Lawler, James J., Jr.
 SrA. Lombardino, Aaron M.
 SrA. Schmitter, Faye A.
 A1C Armstrong, Jason T.
 A1C Beaulieu, Christopher J.
 A1C Kouffie, Shane L.
 A1C Loranger, Tarynn M.
 A1C Mestre, Lisa Darleane
 Amn. Hayward, Justin W.
 Amn. Rojas, Joaquin A.
 Amn. Walsh, Robert F.

Capt. Boothby, Rebecca L.
 TSgt. Mouser, Ronald P.
 SSgt. Benson, Gary D.
 SSgt. Dumont, Ricky C.
 SSgt. Hutchinson, Karen M.
 SSgt. McCroskey, Allison L.
 SrA. King, Randall J., Jr.
 SrA. Lans, Shawn E.
 SrA. Lavoie, Timothy A.
 SrA. O'Connell, Robert J.
 SrA. Sawyer, Todd R.
 SrA. Taylor, Scott M.

Retirements:

TSgt. Grabowski, William E.
 TSgt. Nalesnik, George J.
 TSgt. Parmenter, Terrence P.
 TSgt. Russo, Darlene J.
 TSgt. Saya, Lynne V.

Enlistments:

TSgt. Blair, Erin C.
 SSgt. Dillard, Jon E.
 SSgt. Gately, Russell H.
 SSgt. McNeil, Kandie L.
 SSgt. Polubinski, Douglas C.
 SrA. Kerr, Brian D.
 SrA. Thomas, Otis L.
 A1C Brady, Patrick
 A1C Colkos, Kelly J.
 A1C Di Pietro, Heather L.
 A1C Driscoll, Paul H.
 A1C George, Ryan N.
 A1C Kernan, Charles H.
 A1C Leone, Jerry
 A1C O'Connell, Shannon L.
 A1C Utke, David P.
 A1C Volland, Courtney K.
 A1C Weiss, Susan J.
 A1C Wunderli, Kathrine M.
 Amn. Jordan, Mark W.
 Amn. Mestre, Lisa D.
 AB Hyde, Michael

Re-enlistments:

SMSgt. Cincotta, Paul M.
 SMSgt. Shaughnessy, Thomas J.
 MSgt. Fitzgibbon, Joseph E.
 MSgt. Grasso, Gerald A.
 MSgt. Maille, Christopher J.
 MSgt. Saso, Kerry G.
 MSgt. Warbeck, Shirely A.
 TSgt. Lupien, John J.
 TSgt. Messenger, Richard C.
 TSgt. Morin, Amy J.
 TSgt. Tavilla, Melissa
 TSgt. Wegiel, Edward G.
 SSgt. Collins, Christopher R.
 SSgt. Maycock, John Frederick
 SSgt. Mortimer, Shane W.
 SSgt. Reed, Dale E.
 SSgt. St Louis, Lori L.

Newly Assigned:

Lt. Col. Schumacher, John P.
 Maj. Thompson, Robert W.

Air Force Achievement Medal

Msgt. Robert W. Fredette 439 MSS
 TSgt. Jeffrey C. Otis 439 SFS

Air Force Commendation Medal

MSgt. Sharon M. Brothers 439 ASTS
 MSgt. James M. Goodman 439 ASTS
 TSgt. Paul J. Fortin 439 ASTS
 TSgt. Alice L. Mitchell 439 MSS
 TSgt. Theresa M. Robert 439 MSS

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Mark S. Smyczynski 439 ASTS
 Maj. Susan L. Hanshaw 439 ASTS
 Capt. Shawn V. Howard 439 ASTS
 CMSgt. Francis Defazio 439 ASTS
 MSgt. David C. Pierrepont 439 ASTS
 TSgt. William J. Forbes 439 ASTS

Deployed reservist answers holiday greeting cards

Article and photo
by MSgt. Thomas Allocco

TSgt. Dan Leone wanted students who had sent Christmas cards to troops overseas to know how much their cards were appreciated.

So, he answered their holiday greetings with postcards and began a correspondence that helped the students better understand the mission of the men and women supporting Enduring Freedom, and made 70 new friends at a Michigan middle school.

Leone, a base operations dispatcher with the 439th Operations Support Squadron, deployed in December for a 90-day Operation Enduring Freedom mission.

Shortly after he arrived at an overseas base operations center, 70 hand-made Christmas cards were delivered from sixth graders of Mattawan Middle School in central Michigan. Leone responded with postcards.

"I felt the kids had taken all that time, I felt they deserved answers," Leone said. During his off-duty hours, he went to the base library and answered every one of the youngsters' letters.

In February, the school children answered with 72 Valentine's Day cards. Later they sent bundles of letters to Leone thanking him for his postcards and asking questions about the weather, food and what life is like for those serving in Enduring Freedom.

"You could tell they were staying on top of the news. They were interested. Their teacher was doing a good job staying on top of Enduring Freedom," he said.

The children also sent 75 St. Patrick's

Day shamrocks made from green construction paper, which opened up with messages. As Easter approached, the sixth graders mailed Mr. Bunny and Mrs. Bunny cut-outs, with eggs conveying Easter greetings.

Leone knows the greeting cards were welcomed by troops who had left behind families during the holidays. He taped his cards to the wall outside his base operations office, near the passenger terminal.

One day he passed an 82nd Airborne Division private first class. "He saw my name on all the cards. 'You're a lucky dude,' he said.

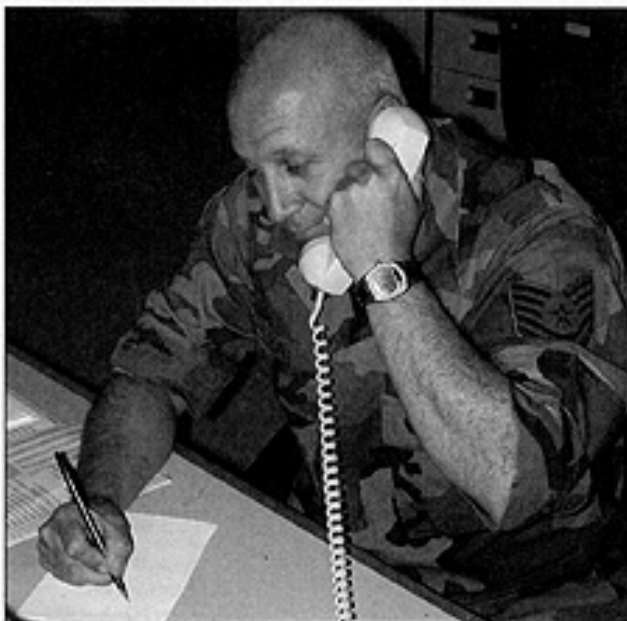
"He asked me to pass on a message. 'Tell them you met a private. He's been traveling the last 10 days to the desert. Tell them these

are the only Christmas cards I got. Please tell them how much I appreciate it and how great it is."

Leone did even more than tell the children how the troops felt. In April he sent money and arranged for two big sheet cakes to be delivered to the children for a St. Patrick's Day celebration. He later sent a certificate of appreciation from the overseas base commander and an Enduring Freedom coin.

"I felt it's important to get the young kids involved in patriotism. After all, we're the Patriot Wing," he said.

Leone is a corrections lieutenant from Windsor, Conn. who has been on active duty since October.



MILITARY MAILMAN —
TSgt. Dan Leone, a base operations dispatcher, keeps in touch with sixth-graders from a central Michigan middle school who sent 70 hand-made Christmas cards to troops deployed overseas.

PATRIOT

PATRIOT online: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/439aw>



Published monthly for Patriots like MSgt. Paul Chappelle, from Johnston, R.I., and the 2,529 members of the 439th AW at Westover AFB, and geographically separated units.

439th AW/PA
WESTOVER AIR RESERVE BASE
100 Lloyd Street
East Wing, Suite 103
CHICOPEE, MA 01022-1825

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHICOPEE, MA
PERMIT #43